



PATENT

Attorney Docket No.: 2938(203-3646)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Shields et al. Examiner: Not Assigned

Serial No.: 10/718,379 Group Art Unit: 3739

Filed: November 20, 2003 Dated: March 16, 2006

For: ELECTRICALLY CONDUCTIVE/INSULATIVE
OVER-SHOE FOR TISSUE FUSION

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to Applicant(s) duty of disclosure, the information listed in the attached form PTO-1449 is brought to the attention of the Examiner. It is respectfully submitted that copies of the references listed on page 1 is not required since this application was filed after June 30, 2003 pursuant to 51 C.F.R. 1.98. Copies of foreign references and publications listed on pages 2-3 of form PTO-1449 are enclosed.

The citation of the listed items is not a representation that they constitute a complete or exhaustive listing of the relevant art or that the references are prior art. The items listed are submitted in good faith, but are not intended to substitute for the Examiner's search. It is hoped, however, that in addition to apprising the Examiner of these particular items, they will assist in identifying fields of search and in making as full and complete a search as possible.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postpaid in an envelope, addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on March 16, 2006.

Dated: March 16, 2006

The filing of this information disclosure statement is not an admission that the information cited herein is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

- This information disclosure statement is being filed within three (3) months of the filing date of this application.
- This information disclosure statement is being filed within three (3) months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.491 in an international application.
- To the best of Applicant(s) knowledge, this information disclosure statement is being filed before the date of mailing of a first Office Action on the merits in connection with this case.
- Enclosed herewith is a certificate under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(1).
- Enclosed herewith is a petition under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d)(2).
- Enclosed by check is the petition fee of \$130.00. (37 C.F.R. §1.17(i)(1))
 - Please charge the \$130.00 petition fee to Deposit Account No. 21-0550.
- Enclosed by check is the \$180.00 fee required by 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p).
- Please charge the \$180.00 fee required by 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) to Deposit Account No. 21-0550.

[X] Please charge any deficiency as well as any other fee(s) which may become due under 37 C.F.R. §1.16 and/or 1.17 at any time during the pendency of this application, or credit any overpayment of such fee(s) to Deposit Account 21-0550. Also, in the event any extensions of time for responding are required for the pending application(s), please treat this paper as a petition to extend the time as required and charge Deposit Account No. 21-0550 therefor.

The claims of the application as now presented are believed to patentably distinguish over the prior art and to be in condition for allowance. Early and favorable consideration of the case is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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ECM/gm



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without references

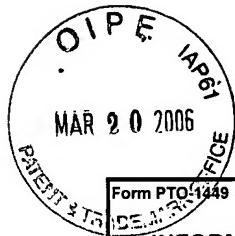
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Form PTO-1449  INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION (Use several sheets if necessary)	Docket Number (Optional) 2938(203-3646)	Application Number 10/718,379
Applicant Shields et al.		
Filing Date November 20, 2003		Group Art Number 3739

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner _____ **Date Considered** _____

Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP §609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.



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Form PTO-1449 U.S. PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION (Use several sheets if necessary)	Docket Number (Optional) 2938(203-3646)		Application Number 10/718,379
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	Filing Date November 20, 2003	Group Art Number 3739	

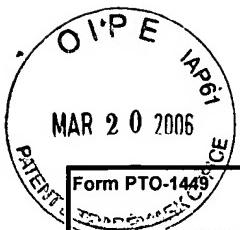
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation	
						Yes	No
	JP501068	9/1984	Japan				
	JP502328	3/17/92	Japan				
	JP5-40112	2/19/93	Japan				
	JP2001128990A2	5/15/01	Japan				
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	JP2000350732A2	12/19/00	Japan				
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	DE 19608716	4/17/97	DE				
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	WO 95/07662	3/23/95	PCT				
	WO 97/10764	3/27/97	PCT				

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"Innovations in Electrosurgery" Sales/Product Literature; December 31, 2000			
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Olsson et al. "Radical Cystectomy in Females" Current Surgical Techniques in Urology, Vol. 14, Issue 3, 2001			
Dulemba et al. "Use of a Bipolar Electrothermal Vessel Sealer in Laparoscopically Assisted Vaginal Hysterectomy" Sales Product Literature; January, 2004			
Johnson et al. "Evaluation of a Bipolar electrothermal Vessel Sealing Device in Hemorrhoidectomy" Sales Product Literature; January, 2004			
International Search Report PCT/US01/11224 dated November 13, 2001			
International Search Report EP 98958575.7 dated September 20, 2002			
International Search Report EP 04013772 dated April 1, 2005			
International Search Report EP 05013895 dated October 14, 2005			
International Search Report EP 05017281 dated November 16, 2005			
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